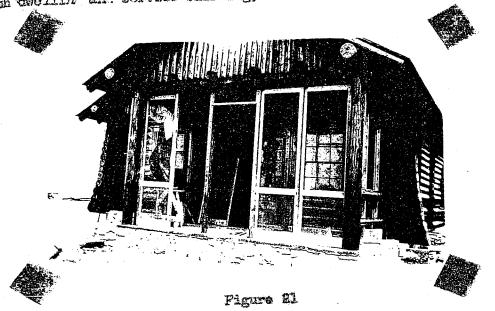
plane In the copper wire career being installed on the sur porce of the character of the copper of the doors in both deciliar and service building, as well as all window screen frames.



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All of the above-mentioned development activities were carried on by WFA sesisted by limited NYA labor; and a good deal of the log work on the service building and certain farming activities were executed by grant labor provided by the Farm Security Administration.

### DESTRUCT LAKE

During this fiscal year we had unusually heavy wind storms in the vicinity of Benton Lake, which caused Russian thisties to pile in along the fence. During one particular day and night we lost over five miles of fence, which had to be rebuilt. In addition, certain parts of the fence on the south which had to be showelled cut.

The of the refuge were drifted in with soil, which had to be showelled cut.

Nost of this repair work was done by Leon C. Snyder, under regular funds.

However, he did have some assistance in the latter part of the fiscal year under WPA.

I made "YPA."

The regular funds provided to this district have been mainly used relative to supervision, gas, and oil, and other incidental expenses; with the exception of some labor which was used relative to the headquarters and the exception of some labor which was used relative to the headquarters and the exception of some labor which was used relative to the headquarters and new trucks are also being purchased by the Washington Office.

I have been very much pleased with the manner in which Snyder has taken held of his job. He had considerable to become asquainted with. He is doing a first class job and getting better acquainted with his duties, and does not hesitate to exert himself. Appreciation is also expressed to the fine cooperation received from our UFA workers as well as the invaluable

Chance of Stephen A. Bennett, project foreman; menty consent, currenters.

Cleono Centry and Leum Cisney, stenographers. Edwin Cisney has

the belief considerably, relative to field data.

All in all, much of the work we have accomplished this year would not been possible without the excellent cooperation received from the above-timed individuals. It should also be mentioned that the Billings office, with Birger Owens, their representative on Fishkun, and Mr. Paterson, the corporate forement; have perticularly done a fine job on Pishkun. Mr. the corporate also worked along with the project for that refuge.

### VI. SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS

As heretofore stated, a comprehensive meeting study was presented during this fiscal year for Ninepipe and Pablo. Our type map study for the is now practically complete and the refuge manager has been working on information relative to a paper which will be entitled "The Management of the Mallard in Flathead Valley and Contributions to its Life History." We have also been obtaining data on management of the Chinese phoasant, with a similar paper in mind. Mr. Edmin Cisney's assistance in connection with these studies has been invaluable. Hence of them as yet are ready to write to present to the Bureau for its approval, but sometime this fall I should have the desired information which has been accommisting over a period of these years. I will not attempt to summarize the results of any of these studies and in connection with the nesting study, it is too comprehensive to sincer down, but is on file in the Washington office.

#### VII. LAW EMPOROREEM

The following apprehensions have been made relative to law enforcement:

- 1. Mr. R. S. Androws, E.F.D. 1, Jox 75, Missoula, Montana, on Rickinghorse Reservoir October 15, 1988, was using a shotgun improperly plugged. Case not prosecuted.
- 2. Robert L. Fedderson, Polson, Montana; hunting without a license at Reservoir Valley. No obmplaint was filed as he was under age. October 20, 1988.
- 5. Mr. Joe H. Papke, Polson, Montane; hunting south of Pablo Refuge on Octaber 28, 1938, without a Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp. He was fined \$10.00.
- 4. Mr. Dwight N. Mason, Jr., 640 Brook St., Massaula, Montana; hunting within the boundary of Pablo Refuge on October 30, 1958. Apparently not proseouted by the Eureau.
- 5. Mr. Vurley White, Somers, Montana; shot a Chinese pheasant cock from the Public Highway near Pablo Reservoir, Sotober 30, 1938. He was fined \$25.00.

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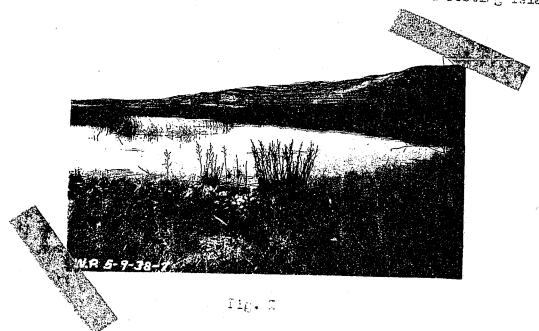
FOR ALL PIPE, BASIA, PISTARIA, WITHOUT FOR BENERICALINE

George L. Girard Locan, Houtana

## MADER OUDITIONS - Weather Conditions

The mortis of August, September, and october on Ninepine, ablo, Pishhar, Willow Crock, and Denton Lake Refuges would be considered perhaps the dry seasor of the year; however, in Setober Ninepipe and ablo had several fine rais. Benton Lake, Willow Creek, and lisher had a few small rains in September and October, and quite a heavy sow in October, but none of which were sufficient to add a water supply to Derton Lake hefuge. Relative to water conditions, willow Creek has had a larger supply during this quarter than as any other period during the last two years. The Reclamation Service did not draw off water during the entire summer. The postoles in the cortimes and western portions of the refuge will receive a new supply of water due to the gradual increase in the water level of the recervoir. Excellent cooperation from the Reclamation Service relative to Elective and Paclo, can be reported. A letter was written to Er. Coy Sperry, Project Engineer for the Flathead Irrigation District, asking if he could cooperate in maintaining a larger supply of water in the reservoirs this fall them was left the provious falls. He complied, and both reservoirs have a good supply of water. his comperation in this matter means considerally to or migratory wa terfowl.

The artificial ponds built on Pablo have done much to improve the water supply of that refuge as illustrated in Figures I ad II. They already are used extensively by ducks and goese and are increasing the population of ducks on that refuge. Figure II contains an artificial resting island.



### I. INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE SPECIES OF WILDLIFE.

As a matter of giving indicative information and a summary, relative to numbers of migratory waterfowl using the refuges in this district for this fiscal year, I will include representative observations from time to time throughout the year. On July 26, on Pablo, I estimated more than 3,000 young ducks and about the same humber of adults. The refuge also had about 350 geese on it. On July 23, more than 1,500 young ducks and about 2,000 adults as well as 35 geese were seen on Ninepipe Refuge. On August 4, there were about 3,500 young ducks and about 3,500 adults, as well as 300 geese on Pablo. Baird sandpipers, northern phalaropes, greater yellow legs, avocets and gulls were also precent. On August 9, there were about 1,800 geese and about 6,000 ducks, as well as 30 greater yellow legs, 100 spotted sandpipers, 20 great blue heron, five avocets, and numerous least sandpipers, on Pablo. On August 10, seven western willet were seen on Pablo, a new bird for that refuge. On August 27 on Pablo there were about 1,000 geese and 8,000 ducks.

On Sugust 11 on Ninepipe there were 700 geese, 25 western willet, a new bird for the refuge, one great merbled godwit, a new bird for the refuge, 100 black or sooty tern, 25 greater yellow legs, two lesser yellow legs, about 7,500 ducks, including redheads and ruddy ducks. I had noted on August 11 that about six northern phalarope had been on the same pothole for about a week. There were also six spotted sandpipers on the refuge on that day as well as 200 gulls.

On August 17, I saw 32 mallards on Benton Lake and an avocet, a new bird to that refuge. There were also 12 marsh hawks on Benton Lake on the same day.

On August 18 on Willow Creek I saw about 5,000 ducks, 12 pelican, 12 reat blue heron, one curlew, seven solitary sandpiper, 45 Baird and least sandpipers, 30 northern phalarope, two avocets, three greater yellow legs, five lesser yellow legs, one spotted sandpiper, 150 coots, as well as western, horned and eared grebes. Lack of sun made it impossible to properly identify the ducks.

On September 6, on Pablo, there were 25 Great Blue Horon, nine least sandpipers, three greater American bittern, 30 American goldeneyes, 1,000 Canadian goese, 5,500 ducks, mainly mallards; but pintails, shovellers, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal, redheads, as well as adwalls, and baldpates were represented. In the afternoon of the same day I counted an additional thousand goese. I should add that on that same day killdeers were still using the refuge. On September 10 on Bablo, I saw at out 200 Baird Sandpipers, and both least and semi-palmat d sandpipers, were present, 1,300 Canadian goese, 75 merican mergansers, 22 great blue heron, 8,000 ducks as well as 300 gulls.

partridges, 350 redheads, 141 ruddy ducks. The redheads and ruddy ducks were in one bunch and were an extremely leautiful si ht. There were also about 12 pied-billed rebe, seven horned grabe, 14 cared grabe, 300 coots, 52 great blue heron, 425 mallards, 250 pintails, 500 baldpates, 500 gadwalls, 22 green-winged teal, 36 blue-winged teal, 75 gulls, two pelican, ten canvas back, 51 lesser scaup, 60 shovellers, and about 500 that 7 could not identify the to the position of the sun.